

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

These clarifying amendments introduce no new matter and support for the amendments is replete throughout the specification as originally filed. These amendments are made without prejudice and are not to be construed as an abandonment of the previously claimed subject matter, or agreement with any objection or rejection of record.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1 (Currently Amended). A parallel reaction device, comprising:

(a) a reaction block comprising a reaction block body having an upper surface, a lower surface, four sides, and an array of reaction wells, ~~wherein the four sides of the reaction block body have disposed therein a substantially continuous recessed region, and~~ wherein at least one reaction well in the array is disposed through the reaction block, which reaction well comprises an inlet portion and an outlet portion, and wherein recessed regions are disposed on at least two of the sides:

(b) ~~a top gasket positioned proximal to the upper surface of the reaction block~~ a band disposed around the reaction block and retained on the reaction block within the recessed regions, which band comprises at least one first top hinge component, at least one first top latch component, at least one first bottom hinge component, and at least one first bottom latch component;

(c) ~~a top lid attached to the reaction block by at least one top attachment component, which top lid comprises at least one protrusion disposed on a surface that engages the reaction block, which protrusion presses the top gasket into contact with the inlet portion of the reaction well to seal the inlet portion~~ a top lid comprising at least one second top hinge component and at least one second top latch component, wherein the second top hinge component engages the first top hinge component and the second top latch component engages the first top latch component; and,

(d) ~~a bottom lid attached to the reaction block by at least one bottom attachment component, which bottom lid presses a bottom gasket into contact with the outlet~~

~~portion of the reaction well to seal the outlet portion when the parallel reaction device comprises the bottom gasket~~a bottom lid comprising at least one second bottom hinge component and at least one second bottom latch component, wherein the second bottom hinge component engages the first bottom hinge component and the second bottom latch component engages the first bottom latch component.

2 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein the reaction block is disposable.

3 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein the reaction block comprises cavities disposed between and proximal to inlet portions of adjacent reaction wells to direct fluidic materials away from other inlet portions.

4 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein at least a segment of the reaction well comprises an inner and an outer cross-sectional shape independently selected from the group consisting of: a regular n-sided polygon, an irregular n-sided polygon, a triangle, a square, a rounded square, a rectangle, a rounded rectangle, a trapezoid, a circle, and an oval.

5 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein at least two regions of the reaction well comprise different inner or outer cross-sectional dimensions.

6 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein one or more reaction wells further comprise a filter disposed therein.

7 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein outlet portions of the array of reaction wells comprise a footprint that corresponds to wells of a micro-well plate.

8 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein the outlet portion comprises an outlet spout having a smaller inner cross-sectional dimension than other regions of the

reaction well, and wherein a transition area between the outlet spout and the other regions in the reaction well is abrupt or tapered.

9 (Canceled).

10 (Currently Amended). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein the top lid comprises at least one protrusion disposed on a surface that engages the reaction block, whichthe protrusion comprises at least one protruding annular ridge that is configured to press ~~apresses the~~ top gasket into contact with the inlet portion of the reaction well to radially seal the inlet portion.

11 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein the top lid comprises an array of protrusions that corresponds to the array of reaction wells.

12 (Currently Amended). The parallel reaction device of ~~claim 13~~claim 1, wherein the top lid produces~~attachment component comprises at least one pair of hinges and at least one latch that are arranged to generate~~ a substantially even clamp load across all inlet portions.

13 (Currently Amended). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, comprising top and bottom gaskets~~wherein the top attachment component comprises at least one hinge and at least one latch.~~

14 (Currently Amended). The parallel reaction device of ~~claim 15~~claim 1, wherein the bottom lid produces~~attachment component comprises at least one pair of hinges and at least one latch that are arranged to generate~~ a substantially even clamp load across all outlet portions.

15 (Canceled).

16 (Currently Amended). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein the bottom lid further comprises at least one protrusion disposed on a surface that engages the reaction block, which protrusion is configured to press ~~apresses the~~ bottom gasket into contact with the outlet portion of the reaction well to seal the outlet portion.

17 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein the top and bottom lids are removably attached to the reaction block.

18 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein the top and bottom lids open independently of one another.

19 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein the top and bottom lids comprise metallic or polymeric materials.

20 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein the top and bottom lids each comprise at least a first alignment structure complementary to at least a second alignment structure on a controller apparatus to align the parallel reaction device relative to the controller apparatus.

21 (Currently Amended). The parallel reaction device of ~~claim 1~~claim 13, wherein the top gasket comprises at least one protrusion, which protrusion axially aligns with the inlet portion.

22 (Currently Amended). The parallel reaction device of ~~claim 1~~claim 13, ~~further comprising a bottom gasket~~, wherein the bottom gasket comprises at least one protrusion, which protrusion axially aligns with the outlet portion.

23 (Currently Amended). The parallel reaction device of ~~claim 1~~claim 13, wherein the top and bottom gaskets comprise sheets of gasketing material.

24 (Currently Amended). The parallel reaction device of ~~claim 1~~claim 13, wherein at least one of the top and bottom gaskets comprises an array of protrusions, wherein at least one protrusion axially aligns with the reaction well.

25 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein the reaction block comprises one or more of: glass, metal, or a polymer.

26 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 25, wherein the polymer comprises polytetrafluoroethylene.

27 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein the reaction block comprises 6, 12, 24, 48, 96, 384, 1536, or more reaction wells.

28 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 27, wherein each reaction well is disposed through the reaction block.

29 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein the top lid further comprises an array of apertures disposed through the top lid, wherein at least one aperture axially aligns with the reaction well.

30 (Canceled).

31 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 29, wherein the aperture is tapered.

32 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 29, wherein each member of the array of apertures axially aligns with a different reaction well.

33 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 29, wherein the protrusion comprises a protruding annular ridge disposed around the aperture.

34 (Canceled).

35 (Currently Amended). The parallel reaction device of claim 1, wherein the ~~substantially continuous~~ recessed regions are disposed on ~~opposing the four~~ sides of the reaction block ~~are positioned~~ proximal to a midpoint between upper and lower surfaces of the reaction block.

36 (Canceled).

37 (Currently Amended). The parallel reaction device of ~~claim 36~~claim 1, wherein each hinge component independently comprises a male or a female lift-off hinge component.

38 (Currently Amended). The parallel reaction device of ~~claim 36~~claim 1, wherein each latch component independently comprises a latch body or a keeper plate.

39 (Original). The parallel reaction device of claim 38, wherein the latch body comprises a rotatable draw latch body.

40-71 (Canceled).

72 (Withdrawn). A reaction block comprising an array of reaction wells, wherein at least one reaction well in the array is disposed through the reaction block, which reaction well comprises an inlet portion and an outlet portion, which reaction block comprises at least one pair of substantially opposing recessed regions disposed in opposing surfaces of the reaction block proximal to a midpoint of each surface, which opposing recessed regions mount at least one lid attachment component.

73 (Withdrawn). The reaction block of claim 72, wherein the reaction block is disposable.

74 (Withdrawn). The reaction block of claim 72, wherein the reaction block comprises cavities disposed between and proximal to inlet portions of adjacent reaction wells to direct fluidic materials away from other inlet portions.

75 (Withdrawn). The reaction block of claim 72, wherein at least a segment of the reaction well comprises an inner and an outer cross-sectional shape independently selected from the group consisting of: a regular n-sided polygon, an irregular n-sided polygon, a triangle, a square, a rounded square, a rectangle, a rounded rectangle, a trapezoid, a circle, and an oval.

76 (Withdrawn). The reaction block of claim 72, wherein at least two regions of the reaction well comprise different inner or outer cross-sectional dimensions.

77 (Withdrawn). The reaction block of claim 72, wherein one or more reaction wells further comprise a filter disposed therein.

78 (Withdrawn). The reaction block of claim 72, wherein outlet portions of the array of reaction wells comprise a footprint that corresponds to wells of a micro-well plate.

79 (Withdrawn). The reaction block of claim 72, wherein the outlet portion comprises an outlet spout having a smaller inner cross-sectional dimension than other regions of the reaction well, and wherein a transition area between the outlet spout and the other regions in the reaction well is abrupt or tapered.

80 (Withdrawn). The reaction block of claim 72, wherein the reaction block comprises one or more of: glass, metal, or a polymer.

81 (Withdrawn). The reaction block of claim 80, wherein the polymer comprises polytetrafluoroethylene.

82 (Withdrawn). The reaction block of claim 72, wherein the reaction block comprises 6, 12, 24, 48, 96, 384, 1536, or more reaction wells.

83 (Withdrawn). The reaction block of claim 82, wherein each reaction well is disposed through the reaction block.

84 (Canceled).

85 (Previously Presented). A reaction block container, comprising:

(a) a band that comprises one or more band portions and having attached thereto at least one first top hinge component, at least one first top latch component, at least one first bottom hinge component, and at least one first bottom latch component;

(b) a top lid comprising at least one second top hinge component and at least one second top latch component attached to the top lid, wherein the second top hinge component engages the first top hinge component and the second top latch component removably engages the first top latch component; and,

(c) a bottom lid comprising at least one second bottom hinge component and at least one second bottom latch component attached to the bottom lid, wherein the second bottom hinge component engages the first bottom hinge component and the second bottom latch component removably engages the first bottom latch component.

86 (Original). The reaction block container of claim 85, wherein each hinge component independently comprises a male or a female lift-off hinge component.

87 (Original). The reaction block container of claim 85, wherein each latch component independently comprises a latch body or a keeper plate.

88 (Original). The reaction block container of claim 87, wherein the latch body comprises a rotatable draw latch body.

89 (Currently Amended). The reaction block container of claim 85, wherein the top lid, the bottom lid, or both lids further comprise at least one protrusion disposed on a surface that is configured to engageengages a reaction block, ~~which protrusion presses a gasket into contact with at least a portion of at least one reaction well when the reaction block container further comprises the reaction block and the gasket.~~

90 (Original). The reaction block container of claim 85, wherein the top and bottom lids open independently of one another.

91 (Original). The reaction block container of claim 85, wherein the top lid further comprises an array of apertures disposed through the top lid, wherein at least one aperture axially aligns with at least one reaction well disposed in a reaction block.

92 (Original). The reaction block container of claim 91, wherein each member of the array of apertures axially aligns with a different reaction well disposed in the reaction block.

93 (Original). The reaction block container of claim 91, further comprising a protruding annular ridge disposed around the aperture.

94-119 (Canceled).